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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Terry Goddard Indicts Four in Multi-Million-Dollar Telemarketing Fraud**

(Phoenix, Ariz. – Aug. 21, 2008) Attorney General Terry Goddard today announced the indictment of four individuals for an alleged Phoenix-based telemarketing fraud. The defendants allegedly obtained some \$17 million selling fraudulent Internet business opportunities to customers throughout the country.

Brent D. Emerson, 36, of Phoenix, Anthony Kristian White, 30, of Phoenix, Gary D. Murdie, 32, of Scottsdale, and Tiffany Marie O'Donnell, 29, of Mesa, were each indicted on two counts of fraudulent schemes and artifices, two counts of money laundering, two counts of theft, two counts of illegally conducting an enterprise and one count of aggravated taking identity of another.

From October 2003 to December 2006, the defendants sold online pharmacy Web sites. In January 2007, after the Maricopa County Superior Court issued a temporary restraining order restricting the defendants' sales of online pharmacy Web sites, the defendants began selling online travel package Web sites.

The defendants allegedly did business under various names, including Guaranteed Prescriptions, Guaranteed Advertising, Premier Marketing Group and Executive Marketing Group.

The indictment alleges that the defendants sold these "online pharmacy" Web sites by means of numerous false representations, including that:

- They had established relationships with major prescription drug manufacturers such as Johnson and Johnson, Pfizer and Merck.
- They had authorization to market and sell online pharmacies to process prescription drug orders over the Internet.
- The purchase of the Web sites was risk-free and came with a money-back guarantee.
- The Web sites could generate commissions in excess of \$20,000 per month.
- Web site owners who purchased additional advertising packages from the defendants would have thousands of interested customers directed to their sites by the defendants.

The indictment also alleges that the defendants used false representations to sell the “travel package” Web sites, including claims that:

- The defendants’ business was a well-respected member of the Better Business Bureau.
- The defendants’ business was rated as a top ten business opportunity by United States Business Rankings, an objective rating company.
- Web site owners could earn significant commissions through the sale of travel packages on these sites.
- Defendants would refund owners all money paid if the owner requested the refund within two years of purchasing the site and had not earned more than the price they paid to purchase the site.

This travel package business was conducted primarily under the names International Travel Connection, International Travel Brokers, International Travel Program, International Travel Network, T & L Marketing Services, L.L.C. and Smart Marketing.

The defendants also allegedly created the appearance that this travel package enterprise was operated, in part, by actual travel and marketing companies in California, Illinois and Oregon. These companies had no knowledge that defendants were using their identities.

This indictment is the result of an investigation by the Arizona Attorney General’s Office. If convicted on all charges, the defendants each face up to 50 years in prison. The defendants are scheduled to be arraigned in Maricopa County Superior Court on August 28.

Also pending is a consumer fraud and civil racketeering action the Attorney General’s Office filed in Maricopa County Superior Court in 2006 regarding this telemarketing operation.

For more information, please contact Anne Hilby at (602) 542-8019.

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